

REMARKS

This paper is filed in response to the Office Action mailed August 1, 2007. Claims 1-40, 42-46 and 48-54 are pending in the Present Application. Claims 12-16, 23, 26, 31, 33, 34, 36-38 and 45 were withdrawn from consideration as of the issuance of the Office Action. Claims 1-11, 17-22, 24, 25, 27-30, 32, 35, 39, 40, 42-44, 46 and 48-54 are allowed. Claims 27 and 43 are objected to. No amendments have been made to the claims. Amendments have been made to the specification, and no new matter has been added by way of these amendments. Reconsideration of the Present Application is respectfully requested.

Allowed Claims

Applicants thank the Examiner for indicating that claims 1-11, 17-22, 24, 25, 27-30, 32, 35, 39-44, 46 and 48-54 are allowed. Applicants respectfully note that claim 41 was previously cancelled from the application, and thus understand that claims 1-11, 17-22, 24, 25, 27-30, 32, 35, 39, 40, 42-44, 46 and 48-54 stand allowed.

Withdrawn Claim 45

Applicants thank the Examiner for noting that claim 45 was withdrawn from consideration at the time of Amendment dated May 8, 2007, although this claim was identified as "currently amended." As the Examiner has not requested the filing of a replacement listing of the claims, Applicants understand that no action is required for this matter.

Withdrawn Claims – Rejoinder

Pursuant to the Examiner's request that the Applicants state their intentions for the withdrawn claims 12-16, 23, 26, 31, 33, 34, 36-38 and 45, Applicants hereby respectfully request rejoinder of these claims pursuant to M.P.E.P. § 821.04. Each of claims 12-16, 23, 26, 31, 33, 34, 36-38 and 45 respectively depends, either directly or indirectly, from an allowable independent claim. Thus each of claims 12-16, 23, 26, 31, 33, 34, 36-38 and 45 requires all the limitations of the allowable base claim from which it depends. Applicants respectfully submit that upon rejoinder, each of claims 12-16, 23, 26, 31, 33, 34, 36-38 and 45 will be in condition for allowance.

Power of Attorney

As requested, Applicant is submitting herewith a new Power of Attorney.

Information Disclosure Statement and Request for Continued Examination

Applicants thank the Examiner for considering the Information Disclosure Statement submitted on March 9, 2007. Applicants are submitting herewith an additional Information Disclosure Statement for the Examiner's review, along with a request for continued examination pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(b)(4).

Specification – Disclosure

In the Office Action, the disclosure is objected to for failing to provide explicit antecedent basis for means-plus-function elements recited in claims 27 and 43.

Applicants have amended the specification to explicitly identify examples of structures disclosed in the specification that correspond to means-plus-function elements recited in claims 27 and 43. No new matter is added by these amendments. Applicants therefore respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the disclosure of the specification.

Abstract of the Disclosure

In the Office Action, the abstract of the disclosure is objected to because it exceeds the 150-word maximum. Applicants have amended the abstract of the disclosure to include fewer than 100 words, and therefore respectfully request withdrawal of the objection to the abstract.

Claim Objections

In the Office Action, claims 27 and 43 are objected to for the reasons set forth above with respect to the objections to the disclosure of the specification. In view of Applicants' amendments to the specification, it is respectfully requested that the objection to claims 27 and 43 be withdrawn.

U.S. Patent Application Serial No. 10/660,083
Amendment and Response dated October 30, 2007
Reply to Office Action of August 1, 2007

CONCLUSION

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, the Applicants submit that the Present Application is in condition for allowance, and a Notice of Allowance is requested. Should questions exist after consideration of the foregoing, the Office is kindly requested to contact the Applicants' attorney at the telephone number given herein.

Please continue sending all correspondence to Paul Evans at the following address: (Customer No. 26,152).

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Respectfully submitted,

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